



Ohio Attendance Taskforce

Recommendations



October 2023



The Taskforce recommends five big ideas to boost attendance and lower chronic absenteeism

1

Attendance is a Team Sport

Working together, build awareness and galvanize statewide support for role of attendance to student success in academics, careers and life

2

Strengthen the Team

Foster engagement, build trust and belonging, and address local challenges with students, families and educators

3

Create a Rewarding and Relevant Team Experience

Cultivate engaging and relevant learning environments so students want to attend at all Ohio schools

4

Support the Players and Coaches

Adjust systems and resources to support schools and districts in their attendance work

5

Adjust the Playbook

Work with policymakers to inform comprehensive policy changes to support student attendance

Recommendations at a glance

Attendance is a Team Sport	Strengthen the Team	Create a Rewarding and Relevant Team Experience	Support the Players and Coaches	Adjust the Playbook
<p>1A. Expand the <i>Stay in the Game!</i> Attendance Network to a comprehensive statewide messaging campaign for every district to be able to join and leverage.</p> <p>1B. Build partnerships to support local attendance efforts. Attendance is a team sport, worthy of being community-owned and a state priority.</p>	<p>2A. Position families as respected allies in student attendance and learning.</p> <p>2B. Create opportunities for students to add their voice and meaningfully participate at the district and school levels to identify challenges and contribute to solution building.</p> <p>2C. Communicate proactively and regularly about what is happening in schools and districts and how it connects to local challenges and strengths.</p>	<p>3. Cultivate engaging and relevant learning environments so students want to attend at all Ohio schools.</p>	<p>4A. Create a comprehensive Attendance Toolkit.</p> <p>4B. Create an Attendance Data Guide and enhance state data and access tools for district and school use.</p> <p>4C. Schools and districts should find the data routines that work for them.</p> <p>4D. Maximize Regional System of Support to help districts and schools.</p>	<p>5A. Refine attendance-related law and policy to reduce administrative requirements related to notification and truancy, to shift thinking, resource allocation and action toward prevention and early intervention.</p> <p>5B. Increase district and school flexibility in how they communicate with families and in definitions that allow for factoring in any exceptional circumstances educators are aware of with specific students.</p> <p>5C. Encourage districts and schools to reexamine and refine local policy using Ohio's Attendance Guide and input from students and families.</p>